

**MOTION BY SUPERVISORS MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS AND
DON KNABE**

August 28, 2012

Year-Round Youth Employment Program

The California State unemployment rate among 16 to 19 year olds is at an all-time high of 35%. The Board of Supervisors has made it a priority to provide summer employment opportunities to Los Angeles County youth through the Summer Youth Employment Program.

On April 17, 2012, the Board of Supervisors directed the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and the Director of the Department of Senior Services (CSS) to identify funding for the FY 12-13 summer youth program with the goal of providing summer employment for about 2,200 youth. In response, CSS was again successful in working with the State of California in receiving a one-time waiver from the U.S. Department of Labor to use \$1.1M in Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Youth funds for a summer youth program. Working in collaboration with the Department of Public Social Services, the CEO also obtained \$2M in fraud incentive funds for the program.

While the Board of Supervisors applauds and supports these efforts, additional actions are needed to ensure funding is consistently available on an annual basis for youth employment. In addition to continuing to pursue other funding sources, efforts are needed to look at ways in which the existing WIA program can provide subsidized employment to our youth on a year-round basis. Statistics show that subsidized employment is a highly effective model for learning skills, building confidence and developing work experience that will benefit participants for a lifetime. It is a model that is beneficial for both our employers and youth that should be pursued.

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MOTION

MOLINA _____

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WE THEREFORE MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

Direct the Chief Executive Officer to work with the Director of Community and Senior Services to:

1. Identify how services within the existing Workforce Investment Act program can be expanded to include a year-round subsidized employment program for the youth of Los Angeles County; and
2. Report back to the Board of Supervisors within 60 days in writing with a plan for providing subsidized employment to the youth of Los Angeles County on a year-round basis.

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